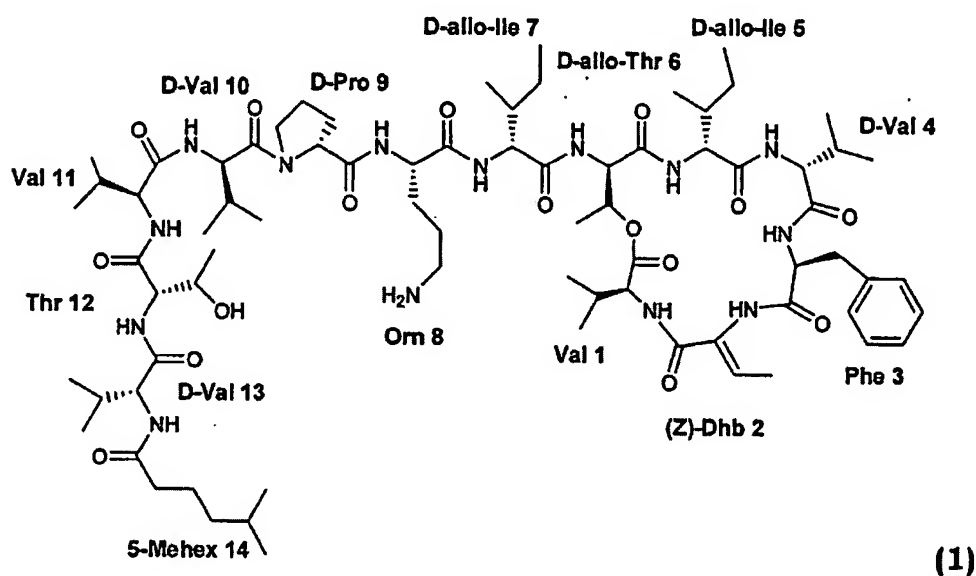


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A compound based on the structure[[s]] of kahalalide F and which differs in at least one respect according to formula 1:



wherein L-Orn at position 8 is substituted by another natural or non natural amino acid, and/or is masked with one or more substituent organic groups; and

wherein said compound may optionally differ from formula 1 by modification of the terminal acyl group; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim [[8]] 1, wherein the amino acid at position 8 is a masked L-Orn.

10. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein ~~the amino acid L-Orn~~ at position 8 ~~is a different~~ has been substituted by another natural amino acid or is a or non-natural amino acid.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim [[11]] 1, wherein the terminal acyl group is changed.

13. (Original) A compound according to claim 12, wherein the terminal acyl is 4(S)-methylhexyl.

14. (Canceled)

15. (New) A compound according to claim 1, based on the structure of kahalalide F of formula 1 designated KF, wherein said compound is selected from

[Glu⁸]-KF,

[Lys⁸]-KF,

[Lys⁸, (4S)-MeHex¹⁴]-KF,

[N(Me)₂, N'(Me)₂-Arg⁸]-KF,

[N(Me, Ph), N'(Me)₂-Arg⁸]-KF,

[N(CH₂)₄, N'(Me)₂-Arg⁸]-KF,

[N(CH₂)₄, N'(CH₂)₄-Arg⁸]-KF,

[Nδ(CHN(CH₂)₄-N'(CH₂)₄)-Orn⁸]-KF,

[N^ε(Me)₃-Lys⁸, (4S)-MeHex¹⁴]-KF,
[Orn(N^δTFA)⁸, (4S)-MeHex¹⁴]-KF, and
[Orn(Biot)⁸]-KF;

wherein the amino acid or group indicated between brackets is the modification introduced in the structure of kahalalide F, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (New) A compound according to claim 9, wherein L-Orn at position 8 is masked with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of alkyl groups and heterocyclic groups.

17. (New) A compound according to claim 10, wherein the L-Orn at position 8 has been substituted by D-Orn, or a masked natural amino acid.

18. (New) A compound according to claim 17, wherein the masked natural amino acid is arginine or lysine with one or more alkyl, phenyl or oligomethylene substituents.

19. (New) A compound according to claim 10, wherein the L-Orn at position 8 has been substituted by Glu or Lys.

20. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the L-Orn at position 8 has been replaced by [N(Me)₂,N'(Me)₂-Arg], [N(Me,Ph),N'(Me)₂-Arg], [N(CH₂)₄,N'(Me)₂-Arg], [N(CH₂)₄,N'(CH₂)₄-Arg], [N^δ(CHN(CH₂)₄,N'(CH₂)₄)-Orn], [N^ε(Me)₃-Lys], [Orn(N^δTfa)], or [Orn(Biot)] and, optionally, 5-MeHex at position 14 has been replaced by (4S)-MeHex.

21. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the terminal acyl group has been replaced by Icos, (c/t)-4-Me-cHexa, Und, (4R)-MeHex, (4RS)-MeHex, (4S)-MeHex, Oct, p-

MeBza, Bza, p-CF₃Bza, 3,5-dFPhAc, Pipe, p-CF₃Cinn, p-CF₃PhAc, Pfh, 6-OHep, 6,6-dFHep, or 4-GuBut; and the L-Orn at position 8 has been replaced by L-Lys.

22. (New) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the terminal acyl group has been replaced by AM, AO, or C(=N(CH₃)₂) and the L-Orn at position 8 has been replaced by L-Lys.

23. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent.

24. (New) A method of treating a mammal affected by cancer which comprises administering to the affected individual a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the mammal is a human.